

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Eldon Knudson graduated from Centerville High School in 1965, where he participated in football, basketball and track—excelling in track; and,

Whereas, Eldon continued his education at The University of South Dakota for two years, graduated from Black Hills State University in 1970 with a bachelor's degree in biology and physical education and took a leave of absence in 1985-86 to complete his master's degree from Mankato State University; and,

Whereas, After one year of teaching and coaching at Gregory High School, Eldon was hired by the Custer school system where he has taught and coached for 36 years; and,

Whereas, Eldon is credited for starting the cross country program at Custer High School, allowing an equal chance for all athletes to succeed, regardless of their level of ability, and always encouraged each one to work hard, have fun and achieve their full potential; and,

Whereas, Eldon and his athletes traveled as a family to their meets across the state, and Eldon thoroughly enjoyed the moments when his "kids" would see Wall Drug, the Corn Palace, the State Capitol or cross the Missouri River for the first time; and,

Whereas, Eldon coached many conference, regional and state champions and was appropriately awarded the South Dakota Girls' Track Coach of the Year for the 1983-84 school year; and,

Whereas, Eldon will retire from teaching and coaching in May 2007, when he looks forward to the opportunity to travel with his wife, Gail, and to enjoy the activities of their three children, Jason, Amy and Mindy, all of whom ran cross country and track for him, and their families:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim November 19, 2006, as

COACH ELDON KNUDSON DAY

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Thirteenth Day of November in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Six.

M. Michael Rounds
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:
Chris Nelson
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State